ap.3627

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PTO/SB/21 (6-98) Approved for use through 09/30/2000. OMB 0651-0031 Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a

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Signature

Application Number 09/228,845 Filing Date 01/12/1999 First Named Inventor Paul Metcalf et al **Group Art Unit** 3627 **Examiner Name** Eric K. Nicholson Attorney Docket Number 427600800004

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)											
X Fee Transi	mittal Form	Assignm (for an /	nent Papers Application)		After Allowance Communication to Group						
Fee	Attached		(s) 4 Sheets of rmal Drawings		Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences						
X Amendment / Response		Licensing-related Papers			Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)						
Aft	er Final	Petition and Acc	Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) companying Petition		Proprietary Information Status Letter						
Affi	idavits/declaration(s)		to Convert to a nal Application								
Extension of Time Request		Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address			Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):						
Express Abandonment Request		Terminal Disclaimer			POSTCARD						
Information Disclosure Statement			ntity Statement								
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT											
Firm <i>or</i> Individual name	H. Duane Switzer										
Signature	H. Duane Suiten										
Date	November 10, 2000										
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING											

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Date

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H. Duane Switzer

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PTO/SB/17 (09-00)
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EE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2001 Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Complete if Known 09/228,845 **Application Number** 01/12/1999 Filing Date First Named Inventor Paul Metcalf et al **Examiner Name** Eric K. Nicholson **Group Art Unit** 3627 Attorney Docket No. 427600800004

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)

METHOD OF PAYMENT			FEE CALCULATION (continued)							
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge			3. ADDITIONAL FEES							
indicated fees and credit any overpayments to: Deposit				Large Entity Small Entity Fee						
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Charge Any Additional Fee Required Pogue Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17			139	130	139	130	Non-English speci	fication		
Applicant claims small entity status.			147	2,520	147	2,520		st for ex parte reexamination	!	
See 37 CFR 1.27			112	920*	112	920*	Requesting public Examiner action	ation of SIR prior to		
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114 130	214 /			140	110	240	55	Petition to revive -	unavoidable	
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)			141	1,240	241	620	Petition to revive -	unintentional		
2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES			142	1,240	242	620	Utility issue fee (o	r reissue)		
Fee from Extra Claims below Fee Paid		143	440	243	220	Design issue fee				
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103 18	203 9	Claims in excess o	f 20	146	710	246	355		n after final rejection	
102 80	202 40	Independent claim	s in excess of 3	140	710	249	355	(37 CFR § 1.129(
104 270	204 135	Multiple dependen	t claim, if not paid	149	710	249	355	For each addition examined (37 CF		<u> </u>
109 80	209 40	0 ** Reissue independent claims over original patent		179	710	279	355	Request for Conti	nued Examination (RCE)	
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Signature 11/10/2000

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants

Paul Metcalfe, Craig A. Homberg and

Walter G. Lockard

Serial No.

09/228,845

Filed

January 12, 1999

Title

COUPLING ASSEMBLY HAVING ENHANCED AXIAL TENSION STRENGTH AND METHOD

OF INSTALLATION OF COUPLED

UNDERGROUND DUCT

Art Unit

3627

Examiner

Eric K. Nicholson

Last Office Action

August 10, 2000

Attorney Docket No.

427600800004

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AMENDMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents Washington, D. C. 20231

RECEIVED

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Sir:

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Responsive to the Office action dated August 10, 2000, please amend this

application as follows:

In the Title:

Please replace the title with the following: COUPLING ASSEMBLY HAVING

ENHANCED AXIAL TENSION STRENGTH.